

TOC H JOURNAL

NEWS VIEWS AND IDEAS

DECEMBER 1960



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT FIFTEEN
TRINITY SQUARE — LONDON EC3



NINEPENCE

Toc H Diaries

While supplies last, make sure of securing your copy of the Toc H Diary for 1961. It contains much useful information, together with sixteen pages of coloured maps. The price is 4s. 3d. including postage, or 4s. 9d. fitted with pencil.

STOP PRESS

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The demand for this year's Christmas Cards has so far exceeded anticipation that it has been necessary to put in hand the printing of further copies of Cards 'A' and 'B'.

The Printers are doing their utmost to minimise the inevitable time-lag and all orders by post will be despatched in strict rotation once further supplies are to hand.

Advertisers

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries about space and charges will be welcome by Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year. N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



DECEMBER 1960

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

In and Out	<i>Notes and Comment</i>	398
A New Mark III	<i>Colin Campbell</i>	400
Multum in Parvo	<i>Much in Little</i>	403
On the Lamp	<i>Leonard S. Rivett</i>	404
Rugger Memories	<i>D. H. B. Arber</i>	408
Moving Story	<i>Reg Smith</i>	411
The Elder Brethren	<i>Roll of Honour</i>	413
After Albemarle	<i>Garry Fyfe</i>	416
'Focus on Toc H (2)'	<i>Competition Results</i>	420
Unforgotten Birthday	<i>Vic Brown</i>	422
Far Cry, Overseas Notes	<i>Geoff Martin</i>	425
Open Hustings	<i>Readers' Letters</i>	427
Inter-Racial Experiment	<i>D. A. Etheredge</i>	430
No Dry Bones	<i>Fred Finedon</i>	432
'One out of Four'	<i>Diana McBain</i>	435
From All Parts	<i>Area News</i>	436

COVER PICTURE: Father Christmas on a steam wagon at Swanage Branch's annual effort to raise funds for Christmas treats for the old folk.

Photograph by courtesy of Mr. Arthur Grant, Wareham.

Change of Address

EDITORIAL OFFICE · TOC H, 15 TRINITY SQ
LONDON EC3 · TELEPHONE ROYAL 0472



Happy Christmas

BY THE TIME THIS NUMBER OF THE JOURNAL has been well and truly circulated, the Festival of Christmas will again be close upon us and we take this opportunity of wishing all readers, at home and overseas, a very Happy Christmas. We also want to thank all those writers, artists and photographers, who during the year have contributed to these pages. Thanks are also due to our Printers and Engravers whose skill has done so much towards producing an attractive publication. A warm thank-you, too, goes to those who undertake the job of packing and despatching each monthly issue, more often than not, cheerfully working 'against the clock' to get the JOURNAL away. We are most grateful to the very many members whose practical help ensures the JOURNAL circulating throughout their Branches. A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Gifts for the Marks

ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE APPEARS AN ARTICLE on the new Mark III. This refers to a splendid covenanted gift that is worth at least £15,000. Subject to future tax rates, it may well be worth more. There must be other members and friends coming by windfalls of capital or income who derive comparatively little benefit from them after the tax-gatherer's attention. Some have shared unexpected legacies with the Family Purse. Given to Toc H for Marks or some other project, the value of such windfalls would be greatly enhanced.

Remembrance Day Parade

VIEWERS OF THE CEREMONY AT THE CENOTAPH in Whitehall on BBC Television on Sunday, November 13, heard Richard Dimbleby single out the Toc H contingent for special mention. In point of fact only a bare handful of members took part in the parade. For a Movement cradled in World War I and with world-wide commitments in World War II, this cannot be regarded as satisfactory and we should do well to review the position now, while nearly a twelve-month remains, before deciding whether or not Toc H should take its share in future parades. It must be admitted that the JOURNAL carried no announcement this year, but we feel sure that given adequate notice next year the combined strength of volunteers from Branches in London and the Home Counties could easily muster two hundred members who saw service in either of the two World Wars or as National Servicemen.

Service in Song

WHETHER SINGING BEFORE THE LORD MAYOR of London, Old Age Pensioners or the inmates of Holloway Gaol, the Toc H London Male Voice Choir have acquitted themselves well over the past twelve months in an impressive list of engagements. They confess, however, to a shade of disappointment in not quite reaching their target of £100 for good causes, in three nights of carol singing to travellers at Victoria Station. To ensure success in doing so this Christmas, additional volunteers to help with the collecting boxes would be most welcome on December 19, 21 and 23. The Choir is also anxious to increase its strength and would be glad to hear from men with a taste for singing, who could attend rehearsals on Monday evenings at 42, Trinity Square, London, E.C.3. Tom Tibble, the Honorary Secretary, whose address is 13, Bonamy Street, London, S.E.1, will be pleased to give further details.

Week-end Visitors

SINGLY, IN PAIRS AND BY COACH-LOADS, colourfully protected against the unkind weather, many members of Toc H Women's Association inspected our new Headquarters during their Festival week-end of October 29-30. At All Hallows, across the way, the carillon played by 'Mac' of Tunbridge Wells Branch welcomed them with an uninhibited selection of tunes, while in the Board Room our literature table enjoyed boom business in sales of Toc H Diaries and Christmas Cards. A special feature on Saturday morning at 'Fifteen' was the meeting of 'Friends of the Old House' which later merged into a get-together for those who had earlier this year taken part in the Oberammergau pilgrimages. They had brought with them so many excellent colour transparencies that the time available only permitted the quickest possible screening. REX CALKIN also produced a small selection of memorable pictures, taken on a much earlier pilgrimage in 1922. Again, on the Sunday morning, further parties of visitors arrived to be shewn around, while a small band of 8 mm. enthusiasts held a jam session in the darkened stock-room, viewing films that there had not been time to show the previous day.

Speaking for the invited guests at the Festival Evening, we brought away from the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday night the happiest impressions. An enthusiastic gathering, with the gracious speech of H.M. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and an entirely admirable address on 'Adventure' by Miss Mary Trevelyan being only two of the evening's events. Incidentally, on the Sunday afternoon during the Family Gathering in the Festival Hall, the Toc H Film, *A Lamp Burns* was shewn to what must have been the largest single audience to have seen it so far.

A New Mark III

COLIN CAMPBELL

It is just over forty years since the first Toe H Mark was established and now a contract has been signed for building, on the site at present occupied by the outworn Mark III, Hackney, the first Mark to our own design

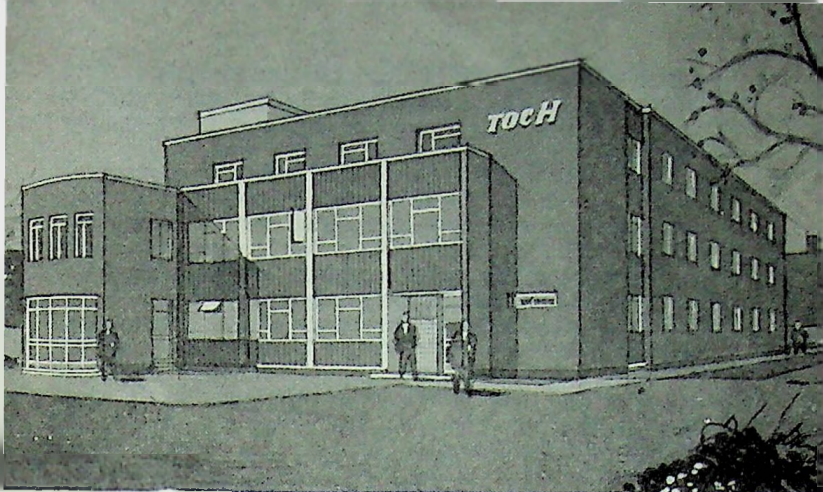
ONCE THE CONTRACTORS have installed their huts, Mark III must take a holiday from the work it has performed so well since it was re-opened after the war. By mid-December demolition will have begun and the Marksmen will have all dispersed: some to other Marks, some to share flats, some to private accommodation, but by the Spring of 1962 the life of Mark III will burgeon anew.

Inevitably there will be some old Marksmen who fear that the traditional quality and richness of Mark life cannot be recaptured in a modern building. But for all the modernity of the design, it has been jealously scrutinised by those best qualified to judge, in order to preserve the essential spirit. The modern trend to single study-bedrooms, for example, has been rejected in favour of a basic three-bedded room. This was decided as the result of an enquiry amongst past and present Wardens and Marksmen.

'Named' Rooms

The general concept was described in these pages in January, 1959. So was the bridge-building character of the new House, right from its conception. Even then, with no more than £7,500 to hand, a number of rooms had been 'named' to form links with various firms, industries and professions. At the time of writing, no less than nineteen rooms are thus allocated.

Seven of them will represent the friendship of individual firms, four come from specific industries, two from ancient City Livery Companies, one by legacy from the mother of a former Marksman, one from a Trust and one from the Borough in which the Mark has made its presence felt and appreciated. The other three also have specific associations. It is fair to say, therefore, that the new Mark is a partnership project, rather than that it has been made possible by donors to an appeal.



The Architect's impression of the new Mark III, Hackney.

It is also fair to say that rebuilding resources have grown as our dreams have been translated into plans and contracts. The faith and foresight of one member, a former Marksman who gave a most generous covenant, initiated the whole project. Once a policy and an outline plan had been agreed money began to come in. The Central Executive agreed to authorise the commencement of actual building once the fund reached a net value of £15,000, demonstrating their faith in finding the remainder of what was then thought to be a total of £40,000.

Magnificent gift

That minimum was reached almost to the day that the architect announced his readiness to go to tender. By the time the tenders had been received, the gross worth of the cash, covenants and promises had passed £20,000. Before the recommended tender could be officially accepted another covenant was received that will be worth at least £15,000.

This truly magnificent gift, for which any ordinary expression of gratitude would be quite inadequate, came from one whose sincere wish for anonymity must be respected. Suffice it to say that it comes from someone who has had very close connection with Toc H and with its Marks, a

member to whom their future matters greatly. There were no strings, but an implied wish, gladly accepted, that it be available to Mark III if required but, if not, for another Mark project.

It is now clear that the total cost, including professional fees and furnishings, will be around £50,000 towards which there is thus approximately £35,000 covenanted or immediately available. Apart from what comes in meanwhile, there are hopes of some useful accretions in December. One ex-Mark VII member has personally undertaken to enlist the support of such former Marksmen of that House as he can trace with a view to providing a Mark VII Room in the new Mark III. And a former Deputy Warden of Mark III itself is keen to trace its own former Marksmen to see what they can do. Both would no doubt welcome the help of their respective "old boys".

Last lap

As we enter the last lap, there is approximately a year and a quarter to find the remaining £15,000. What a wonderful thing it would be if, in one last great spurt, we could not only achieve this but also free that wonderful gift to 'prime the pump' elsewhere.

There must be hundreds of ex-Marksmen who could help. Many of them perhaps look back with gratitude and affection on Mark life but have lost touch. Maybe some of their contemporaries could re-establish contact? Just to put it in perspective, it only needs ten covenants each for ten pounds a year for seven years, to provide a three-bedded room. There could be no finer foundation for this House than the faith of its friends and the conviction that its Divine Purpose will remain enshrined in its new shell.

new catalogue

listing 200 films and filmstrips

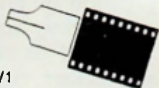
on travel and transport subjects – *many in colour*

and all on free loan from **British Transport Films**

write now for your copy

to the Chief Officer (Films) British Transport Commission

25 Savile Row London W1





Multum in parvo



much in little

❖ **LAST MONTH** this column took a holiday. There being too much to put in little, there was too little to put in Multum.

❖ **THIS MONTH** there occur these three anniversaries: **TUBBY** was born on December 12, 1885. He was ordained deacon on December 18, 1910. He opened Talbot House, Poperinge, on December 11, 1915.

❖ **THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT** will be observed on Sunday, December 11, at 9 p.m. by local time.

❖ **PETER ORFORD** (South Africa), having done full-time work for a year in this country, is now taking a course in personnel management at the University of Wales, Cardiff.

❖ **BBC APPEAL:** The efforts of many Branches in backing John Callf's appeal broadcast on July 31 brought a response of £3,850.

❖ **CENTRAL COUNCILLORS** have been reminded that by the end of February they are called on to nominate their candidates for the Central Executive to be elected at the annual meeting of the Council in April.

❖ **BRANCH MEMBERS' ROLLS:** This is the month for Branch Executives to complete the rolls of those who are renewing their membership for the new year.

❖ **MARK III, Church Crescent, South Hackney, London, E.9,** will be closed on December 10, in order that the building can be demolished and the new Mark III built on the site.

❖ **FEBRUARY 14:** At the Scala Theatre, London, 'Carousel' by the Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society to help the rebuilding of Toc H Mark III.

❖ **GUARD CONFERENCES** next March and April, when representatives of all Area Guards of the Lamp will meet the Central Guard in London, at Dor Knap and near Derby.

❖ **JUNE 24 TO JULY 1:** **THE LANGDALE CAMP** in the Lake District will be open as usual to fit fellows to walk and talk. Enquiries to J. R. Elliott, 15 Roman Avenue, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

❖ **DATES** in 1961 can be found or entered in the Toc H Diary, 4s. 3d., or with pencil 4s. 9d., post free.

On the Lamp

LEONARD S. RIVETT

Originally written for Yorkshire members, these notes may well help others to concentrate their thoughts on the symbolism contained in the Lamp of Maintenance

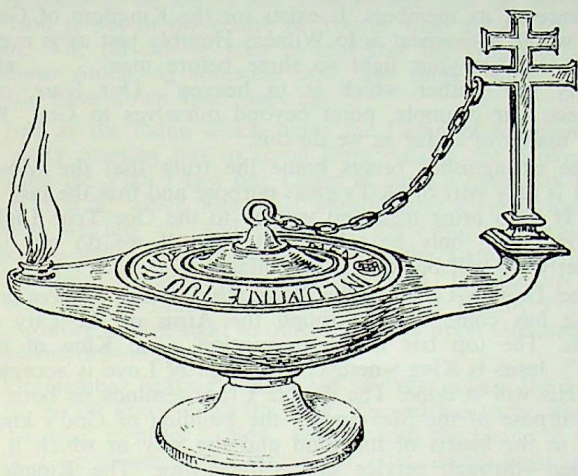
WE ALL KNOW that the Lamp of Maintenance is modelled on the pattern of the ancient Roman Lamp, often called the early Christian Lamp. Lamps like it, bearing Christian symbols (a dove, a ram's head, a fish, a lamb, a simple Cross, PX—some of which are incorporated into the Lamp of the Magnificat of the Women's Association) are often found wherever there are excavations of Roman sites. In the dim light of such lamps initiations and worship were carried out when Christianity was an 'under-ground' movement in Rome in more senses than one!

We are members of a minority movement today, with the same aims and objects of the early Church—the spreading of the Kingdom of God—and with the same methods. We are not so much perhaps faced with active opposition, but with indifference, which is much harder to pierce through or crack. But think of the phenomenal growth of the infant Church and by the guidance and operation of the same Spirit the opportunities given to us.

The shape of the Lamp takes us back to the earliest days of the Church in Europe and moves us to give thanks to God for the growth of His Church, for the first missionaries, and for all His saints who have been lights of the world in their several generations. All of which give us strength, courage and resolve in facing the future.

The inscription *In Lumine Tuo Videbimus Lumen*—In Thy Light shall we see light—is a quotation from Psalm 36, verse 9. It is a great pity, that, as the inscription is round the top of the Lamp, only the person actually taking 'Light' ever really sees it. These words ought to be remembered by everyone before the ceremony is begun and could well provide a prologue. If we did really remember them we would never misname the Lamp as "of Remembrance"; these words so clearly make it a Lamp of Maintenance.

All the rich symbolism of 'Light' in Scripture, from Genesis ("And God said, Let there be light; and there was light") to Revelation ("And there shall be night no more; and they need no light of lamp, neither light of sun; for the Lord God shall give them light."), is here. Above all St. John writing about the Light of the World. It is worthwhile referring to what William Temple wrote in "Readings in St. John's Gospel" about "Light" from time to time.



The preliminary drawing of the Toc H Lamp made by Barclay Baron and first reproduced in the 'Journal', Vol. 1, October, 1922.

Toc H exists to help this Light to shine in all sorts of unlikely places. Where there is a simple act of kindness, a friendly word, a generous act, an unselfish deed born of Love . . . there the Light shines. Think of the opening words of the Toc H Prayer, "O God who hast so wonderfully *made* Toc H . . ." and the opening words of the Bible, "In the beginning God *created* the heaven and the earth". The purpose? That the Light might shine. Remember too that our Lord, after saying "I am the Light of the world", said to His followers "*Ye* are the light of the world". Herein lies our commission.

The Extinguisher may seem unimportant perhaps, but in passing remember that the monogram on the handle was the first badge of Toc H, and so it takes us back to the early days of the Movement before the Lamp existed.

At the end of the twenty-four hours' Vigil, and at the end of every ceremony of "Light", the flame is extinguished. There is a hidden meaning behind this simple act. Toc H is a frontier movement, concerned with pushing out the boundaries of the Kingdom of God. Toc H doesn't exist for itself nor for its own glorification, far less for the convenience of its members. It exists for the Kingdom of God. The whole Movement is to Witness Humbly just as is every member. "Let your light so shine before men . . . and glorify our Father which is in heaven". Our lives, our witness, our example, point beyond ourselves to God. We only matter in so far as we do this.

The extinguisher brings home the truth that the Movement is only part of God's great purpose and that the task of Toc H is to bring men and women to the One True Light. We must not only be self-effacing, but if we do our job properly we will be self-extinguishing.

The Double Cross is the Patriarchal Cross in heraldry, which has come to us through the Arms of the City of Ypres. The top bar is the inscription "The King of the Jews". Jesus is King wherever His reign of Love is accepted and His will is done. The double Cross reminds us both of the purpose of the Movement—the building of God's kingdom in the hearts of mankind and the way in which it is reached—through service and self-sacrifice. The Kingdom and the Cost. All that is meant in Christian thought by The Cross is here and we can't escape it, nor can we escape our Lord's words, "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me". The purpose and the way are part of the Lamp and of the badge.

Again, the Chain may seem unimportant but it symbolises the fellowship of Toc H. As each link is joined to others, so we are joined together; bound together in the Branch and across the World by the unseen chains of love.

I have never seen a broken chain on a Toc H Lamp, but I have known times when the invisible chain of fellowship has been broken. Usually when one member has proved too heavy for the rest to bear and has become more like the

ball on the end of the chain than one link! Yet, we all need to be penitent here, surely. Just think of the hundreds of 'lapsed' members each year. Something has gone wrong and the chain has not been strong enough to hold them.

Our fellowship is, of course, part of the fellowship of the world-wide family of God. We pledge ourselves to Love Widely, and the fellowship spills over into Service. In the Lamp the chain joins the Cross to the lid of the bowl, in which is contained the oil.

If there is no oil in the Lamp there can be no light. If God is not in the centre of Toc H, then all we do is in vain. The oil can be seen to represent the Grace of God, without which, as someone said, this thing called Toc H would have flown apart ages ago.

Just as the flame which lights the Lamp of Maintenance at every meeting has to come from outside the Movement (during the Vigil I saw one Lamp lit from a sanctuary lamp in a church, which was most appropriate) so does the oil. Unless we rely on, and constantly draw on, the Grace of God we will get nowhere. The oil in the Lamp has to be "topped-up" every so often and we need "topping up" too—here lies the fundamental importance of Family Prayers. Our ability to give light to others depends upon God and our constant drawing on His storehouse.

I remember hearing John Califf say that unless the Lamp is lit, no oil flows along the wick. The oil has to be wanted, to be used, in order to flow. So it is with the Grace of God. Unless we attempt great things for Him, things beyond our own strength, we will never realise the grace and guidance that is there for the asking. One man by himself may be able to do nothing, but as Abraham Lincoln said, "One man and God make a majority"! Unless the Lamp is lit the oil will never flow along the wick. Unless we are Building Bravely we won't experience the Grace of God.

The humble wick can be likened to our business, often so monotonous and dreary, but without which the oil would never be able to issue forth into light. The analogy breaks down because the wick is scarcely seen at all, but our business so often is all that is seen, as we let it monopolise meetings.

Have another look at the Branch Lamp of Maintenance and think on these things. . . .

Rugger Memories

D. H. B. ARBER

IT WAS A GREAT PLEASURE to me to find out early this year, that a Toc H Rugger Club had emerged again in London, and it brought back many memories of twelve seasons before the War, during which I played for the original Toc H Club. I actually joined the Club in the winter of 1927, and it was only the outbreak of the War that ended not only my own playing career, but the life of the Club as well. It so happened that almost the whole of the first XV were in T.A. units of one sort or another, and of course many members of the other sides were called up in the September too, so the playing side of the Club literally vanished within a week of the start of the 1939-40 season.

I feel that some explanation is needed as to why I am dragging back this very distant past, but it may be that in some way the history of the old Club may be of use in giving a small heritage to this new Toc H London Rugby Football Club, which is making such a fine effort to establish itself on the London scene.

Heave forward

The old Club was actually started some years before I joined it, and shared an excellent ground at Folly Farm, Barnet with the senior Toc H Soccer Club, who if memory serves me fairly, rose to the dignity of playing in the Southern League. The Rugger Club took a big heave forward in 1927, and thanks to the energies of one Tom Beech and other stalwarts such as John Mallet, who was a full-time member of the Toc H Staff in those days, the Club recruited some sixty members and in no time at all, we were fielding five fifteens. In passing, I would add that Toc H itself gained a number of new members at the same time, as many of us, myself included, were swept into local groups and Branches at the same time as we were being press-ganged into joining this lively Rugger Club. Every facility that Toc H possessed was put to service, such as the use of the gym at 42 Trinity Square for our training nights, recruitment through the Schools' Section of Toc H, talks by playing members to the Marks and London Branches, and support from the leaders of Toc H, notably Tubby, who took a lot of interest in the Club's progress.

We felt that we could show Toc H in the best light if we played good rugby, and so we set out to make our mark in the playing world, and by this grand influx of members, we were able to build up some strong sides in the Club, and each season we strengthened our fixture list. Our playing records for some seasons even became news, and in those days there seemed to be more room in the Press for match reports, which helped us considerably.



The London Toc H Rugby Football Club, 1st XV reproduced from the 'Journal' of March, 1928. The writer of this article is seen seated second from right.

Amongst those years of playing regular Saturday matches in and around London, we had some interesting side-lines, notably amongst these being the annual Toc H Seven-a-Side tournament. This was played between sevens from the Marks and Branches, and incidentally was another good recruiting source, as many Toc H members who played for other clubs, turned out on this day, and quite a number were persuaded each year to join us for better or for worse. In those days there were a few other 'sevens' tournaments, and two in which we always played were the Middlesex one and the Hertfordshire one on the West Herts.' ground. We managed

to make the finals day at Twickenham one year, and seven of us had the thrill of treading the famous path under the big stand. We were duly dealt with by a strong Rosslyn Park seven, containing E. W. F. de V. Hunt, a current Irish International wing, but it was a great moment. The Hertfordshire 'Sevens' were tremendous fun too, and I am sorry that I cannot report that we ever won it, but we had some great games with our regular Hertfordshire opponents, in particular, Barnet, Harpenden, West Herts. themselves, and Mid-Herts. (now defunct). Before leaving Hertfordshire, it is of interest that we had several players in the first Hertfordshire County sides, and it is a great pleasure to see how well Hertfordshire do in the County Championship these days.

Manchester Toc H Rugby Club

Another feature of those pre-war days was the Easter Tours. We went to Leicester several times, staying at the Mark, and we cemented a strong friendship when the Old Wyggestonians, one of our regular opponents, came to Folly Farm to play us in return. We also toured Southampton, again staying at the local Mark. I can remember too, that we had ideas of playing Manchester Toc H, but it never came off—perhaps the new Club can take up this commitment in the near future.

In our earlier days, we played several Schools including Mill Hill, but as our strength increased this didn't quite work out, but I have happy memories of those matches. Another interesting day was our Annual fixture with Borstal at Rochester. This took the form of taking a side on a Sunday made up of chaps from all the teams, and playing a side from the Institution. We were allowed to mix afterwards, and it was quite an experience, and a rewarding one, too. Might this not be revived?

I find it difficult to round off this report, as memories keep flooding back, but feel that a few comments on members who made their mark in those days, are worthy of mention. We produced indirectly one International, in R. W. Sampson. He played for the Club for a number of seasons, starting in the extra 'A', got selected for the T.A. team, and we regretfully let him go to the London Scottish, whom he eventually skippered, and he got a cap for Scotland as a hooker. The Club also had fine support from W. R. F. Collis, and P. E. Dunkley. The former, an old Irish Inter-

national was our President for a time, and turned out for the Club on a number of occasions. Dunkley, a keen Marksman, played for the Harlequins, England and Warwickshire, and was one of the terrors of the Mark 'Seven' in our Annual Tournament. We also lost a very good wing to Richmond, one Terence Irish, who played quite regularly for the Richmond XV after he left us. It is pleasant to look back though on the number of excellent players who were with us for the whole of their playing careers, and this extended well beyond the first XV. It was not long before the War that our fourth side, the 'B' under the captaincy of Bobby Hirst, had a wonderful run of success. I cannot remember their eventual season's record, but I know it started with some eleven matches without defeat. I feel this is a good place to close.

Moving Story

REG SMITH

Here the East Anglian Area Secretary tells the story behind one gift sent in response to this year's B.B.C. Appeal

THE insurance and rent clerk had returned to his office in the market town and, as he checked his cash, he told the four other clerks in that office of the sad case he had met that day. The rent of a cottage occupied by an old couple had been increased. The landlord said they had got to pay or get out. Their only known source of income was their pension and that would not meet the new rent, so it seemed that 'out' it was to be. But where? One often heard of sad cases in that office, this was just another one to add to the collection; anyhow it was time to go home and forget the office and its worries.

Not so for Tom, other people's worries were his worries; folk said he was like that, just as if he suffered from some kind of strange weakness. Tom spent what time he could during the next week or ten days driving around in his ageing car, first to visit the old couple and then to look for any vacant cottage. He eventually heard of one some five miles away, if anything a slightly more convenient home for the couple. But the rent, would that be as convenient? Those who know Tom also know that he will never be lost,

he never hesitated in his life! With the owner of the new cottage, a local farmer, he shared his concern. The owner also had a concern, to find a good man to help work on the farm and live in the cottage—and Tom's old man was obviously past doing further farm work. "And what rent have they been paying?" asked the owner and visibly started when Tom told him, but the reply came, "That's a bit low, but I s'pose they've got a live somewhere. Tell 'em they can have the cottage".

Things were going fine, in fact there was nothing to worry about now. The old couple had got another cottage and that's all there was to it, or was it? How were they to move all their bits and pieces across the five miles. Come to think of it, they couldn't afford to pay for such a move and even Tom felt he could hardly ask the new landlord to do the job with a tractor and trailer. Well, Tom had a car, hadn't he?—and he was pretty certain his friend would lend him his trailer. Then there was his brother-in-law, he had one of those 30-cwt. pick-up trucks. The job was practically done.

Well, it didn't work out quite as easily as that, though Tom and his brother-in-law did the job after each day's work and all of one Saturday afternoon and evening. The first thing was to know what to do with the couple while the removal was being done. That proved easy, just get the old couple to pack a few things in a parcel and let them stay with Tom and his wife for a day or so. And shifting the furniture from the cottage was a job-and-a-half, getting it loaded and transported was another. However, those who came to 'stand and stare' were quickly recruited to help move the heavier pieces, and the many journeys which had to be made were completed more or less successfully. As Tom says, it would have been a bit easier if he had had a proper draw-bar for the trailer instead of having to lash it to his bumper with a rope! Anyhow, moved the old couple were and Tom and his wife took them to their new home, where furniture was in place, floors covered, flowers in vases and a fire in the grate. It was a tearful and happy home-coming.

So now we know why a couple of old age pensioners sent a gift to Toc H so that they might "glorify our Father which is in Heaven", and Tom is still wondering what all the fuss is about for he had not considered it a job, something to tell his Jobmaster about, but just something which had to be done out of his ready concern for the needs of others.

The Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

BENNETT.—On October 12, ROY BENNETT, aged 60, a member of Ealing Branch. Elected 10.7.'25.

BISHOP.—On October 9, CHARLES FREDERICK BISHOP, aged 72, a member of Anstey Branch, formerly of Felixstowe Branch. Elected 7.3.'49.

CHAPELHOW.—On October 14, JOHN ERNEST CHAPELHOW, aged 70, a founder member of Shipley Branch. Elected 16.6.'34.

COWEY.—On October 8, CECIL COWEY, aged 61, a member of West Hartlepool Branch. Elected 26.6.'37.

DEVAL.—On October 11, EDWARD DEVAL, aged 71, a member of Netherton Branch. Elected 3.10.'51.

FLOYD.—On October 24, ALFRED FLOYD, aged 85, a member of Porlock Branch. Elected 22.2.'41.

HARBOUR.—On October 29, EDGAR CHARLES HARBOUR, aged 74, member of Chard Branch. Elected 12.11.'58.

HARRIS.—On October 4, STEPHEN BRUCE HARRIS, aged 73, former Sports Editor of the *Evening Standard*. A member of Ealing Branch. Elected 14.1.'26.

KNIGHTLEY.—On March 17, FRANK JAMES KNIGHTLEY, aged 46, a founder member of Puriton Branch. Elected 14.7.'51.

LAKE LAKE.—On October 30, WILLIAM JOHN LAKE LAKE, O.B.E., J.P., aged 73, once of Mark 1, London, founder of Toc H in the Argentine, Hon. Administrator from 1940 to 1946, a Vice-President. Elected 1922.

PEARDE.—On April 29, GEORGE EDWARD PEARDE, aged 75, a member of Wareham Branch. Elected 2.3.'44.

PRESTON.—On October 31, suddenly, SYDNEY CYRIL PRESTON, aged 40, a member of Newark Branch. Elected 25.3.'57.

SAGAR.—On October 19, JOSEPH EDWARD SAGAR, aged 74, a founder member of Sandown Branch. I.O.W. Elected 22.7.'33.

SCOTT.—On July 9, the Rev. CHARLES WILFRED SCOTT, aged 80, a Southern Area member. Elected 7.2.'55.

SHARDLOW.—On August 21, THOMAS FROST SHARDLOW, aged 51, member of Vancouver Branch. Elected 31.5.'29.

TAYLOR.—On October 10, JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, aged 66, a member of Morecambe Branch. Elected 6.11.'34.

THOMPSON.—On October 6, after a long illness, MELVILLE THOMPSON, aged 63, a member of Clubmoor Branch (Liverpool). Elected 5.2.'59.

WATERLAND.—On September 22, ALBERT ARTHUR WATERLAND ('Skip'), aged 89, a member of Sutton-on-Sea Branch. Elected 10.4.'56.

WEEKES.—On October 17, suddenly, CHARLES WEEKES, aged 57, a founder member of Sheerness Branch. Elected 14.11.'29.

WOOD.—On September 30, suddenly, JOHN HESKETH WOOD, aged 55, a member of Cockermouth Branch. Elected 7.1.'28.



In Memoriam

WILLIAM JOHN LAKE LAKE

If the earliest venture of Toc H overseas was Tubby's visit to Canada in 1922, the next followed hard upon it in a much less likely country—Argentina, where Buenos Aires reached Branch status in 1923. Within the next four years there were three very active units in the Argentine, Rio de Janeiro and San Paulo in Brazil and three far across the Andes in Chile. And in Buenos Aires itself a Toc H Mark opened its doors to many visitors, including sailors, and was a real home to some exiles in a very foreign land. Excellent teams of members kept these ventures going but the pioneer of them all was one man—William Lake Lake (Tubby held that his parents had stammered at his christening!), known to all Toc H as 'Lako'.

Lako's earlier life had not been without adventure. As a youngster in his 'teens he had worked on a ranch in Tierra del Fuego, the storm-bound southerly tip of South America, where cattle and sheep in enormous numbers counted and human life was relatively cheap. In later years members would sometimes

sit round him enthralled by his tales of that time, and readers of his only novel, *Shepherd*, get a vivid impression of it which must be largely autobiographical. He became a good horseman, who served with the cavalry in World War I, and a fine fencer. From the far south he moved more than 3,000 miles north to join an oil company on the Amazon.

It was during a spell at home that 'Lako' met Toc H and became a Marksman in a London House. When he returned to South America, this time to Buenos Aires in the employ of Shell, he lost no time in transplanting the idea of Toc H to the large British colony there. The success of this venture has since been sadly crippled by political upheaval.

When Lako retired he made a home on the border of his beloved Kent and was very content with half a dozen sheep instead of as many thousand. Very soon the Second War broke out; the Administrator of Toc H, Hubert Secretan, was recalled to government war work and Lako was invited to step into his place. He threw himself into the War Services' work which had now to be improvised, extended and paid for. Some 300 Toc H Clubs opened at home but his special concern was development on other fronts. He paid several visits to Egypt, Palestine, North Africa and Germany and travelled twice to India. When at home he served with his local unit of the Royal Observer Corps. Afterwards he became a magistrate. Lako's retirement certainly was not idle! Our thanks for his long and faithful service and our deep sympathy to Mrs. Lake and their two daughters.

B.B.

Colonel J. A. METHUEN, D.S.O.

The friendship between Colonel Methuen and Tubby goes back to the autumn of 1916 in Poperinge, when he proved himself a staunch ally by helping to form a confirmation class at Talbot House. Their ways then led in different directions, until many years later some newspaper cuttings and photographs arrived in London to bring them together again. The subject of the cuttings was a huge stone cross which he and his brother had had erected at the top of a kopje overlooking Umtali in Southern Rhodesia, commemorating all the Africans who had been killed in the first World War.

He was a stray, rugged character who never shrank from entering the lists on behalf of any cause in which he believed. In recent years he has had to bear a heavy burden of ill health, and now Toc H has lost another of its great men.

G.R.R.M.

After Albemarle

GARRY FIFER

A VERY POSITIVE and constructive week-end was held at Dor Knap recently to discuss how and where Toc H should fit in with the Youth Service. It was not a conference, since this word usually describes one of those formal gatherings which finish with a set of platitudes and some pious resolutions, handsomely bedecked with escape clauses so that nobody need really do much about it, yet can still feel good.

This particular get-together of men (quite a number of them were under 23—Alleluia!) who felt that Toc H should take a more active and intelligent part in helping the youth of today, pledged themselves to start doing something about it right away. They also undertook to return to Dor Knap at the same time next year and render account of their successes and failures. This type of positive commitment was a refreshing change from the usual angle of having to take it up with the Branches and see what can be done. There and then people pledged themselves, not on the high crest of a wave of enthusiasm but after much discussion and thought.

Things to criticise

It was unanimously agreed that if the adult of today finds things to criticise in today's youth, he has only himself to blame; for his generation created the atmosphere in which youngsters are brought up. The ex-Charleston man is father to the jiver, the sports-car enthusiast of the '20s and '30s is responsible for the scooter fan of today and so on. "Each generation gets the next generation it deserves". If the youngster is cynical it is because his "betters" have made him so, if he is "pops" mad it is because nobody has bothered to tell him "square" music can be fun; if he reads comics rather than books it is because men are making money out of comics; if they are indifferent to Christianity it is because older Christians have not gained their respect or have failed to show the virility and challenge of the Christian message.

The first session was a lively one with one of the members

of the party giving a general talk about his views of the Youth Service. Later on, Les Moreby of the Birmingham Federation of Boys' Clubs, gave a well-informed talk on the findings of the Albemarle Report.

The point was made that a number of adults would like to do something about "youth" and the local Youth Club seemed the obvious answer since nearly every single Youth Club in the country is undermanned from the point of view of helpers, coaches, leaders, etc. It was all very well, however, to say that all that was needed was to get into contact with the local Youth Officer or a local Club because to discuss things with another adult was easy; but the moment which a number of adults had doubts about was the initial contact with the actual boys and girls. Would they be well received, how to cope with indifference, suspicion or maybe fairly obvious dislike? If you have not been used to this kind of thing how did you keep discipline, or even get them to listen to you? In fact, to some, the idea of going into a room full of teen-agers was so daunting that they kept out of it saying they hadn't got the time. Due to factors such as these, a number of the right type of people have never got involved; they have feared making a start. The conference spent little time on "don'ts" but took a more positive line—how to set about making the first contacts.

Methods suggested

A number of 'methods' for helping were devised. It was agreed that there are enough organisations, let alone individual groups, running Youth Clubs and that Toc H as a whole should be willing to sink a little of their own identity and help others to "build bravely". Toc H Branches haven't really the know-how (at least in a great many cases) to start a Club; far, far better to help in one already struggling to keep up with the many counter-attractions which the monied youth of today find placed before them.

The suggestions that follow are, of course, not an end in themselves but they may serve to make a "small beginning" and from there, in the light of experience and greater confidence perhaps to get on to other things. It was felt on the whole that it was better to get straight in rather than spend a lot of time reading reports, books and pamphlets on Youth Work, which may only mean wasted time and much theorising. The best way to learn, it was felt, was the empirical way, to jump right in at the deep end.

Here then are some suggested methods:

1. (This was recognised to be an 'easy' approach and of value only in so far as it provided opportunities for first contacts from which other more personal and continuous forms of work might develop. It was also a way in which a Branch corporately could demonstrate its interest).
The Branch, in consultation with Leaders of the various Clubs in the area and the Youth Organiser in the district, to put up some sort of Trophy to be competed for by all the clubs in the area. The Leaders will indicate what the Trophy could best be for, e.g. Table Tennis, or Chess, or Darts, or Swimming, or Athletics. The Branch would then organise the whole competition, which could take place either in some neutral place (local hall, baths, pitch) or in rotation at the various Clubs. It was stressed that the Trophy itself should not be considered a way of trying to buy the way into the Clubs, this would fail anyway; youngsters see through dodges like that. But the actual organising of the competition would involve a great many members of the Branch, even the older people who are not particularly interested in Youth Work, as Stewards, time-keepers, judges, compilers of records, etc., etc., and made it possible for the individual to make some sort of contact with the youngsters. The scheme would fail if the Branch merely put up a prize and attended the finals for the presentation:
2. One of those present described how he discovered that one or two of the local lads, members of a Club, were interested in fishing so he took them with him one Sunday. This was a success and the boys asked if they could bring a couple of their mates along, also members of the Youth Club. The Leader of the Club was contacted and a notice put up, in this way an Angling Section grew up quite naturally and the adult found himself 'accepted' in the Club. This method is the one of using a common interest or hobby and sharing it; it doesn't necessarily mean that one commits oneself right from the start to go to a Club and run a course or become an instructor. It means that one uses one's knowledge of something tangible to make contact with just a few boys, letting the thing develop naturally. After all, minorities in a Club are important too. A club should not be all sport or all outdoor activities: there are boys who are born 'rabbits' but who have other interests other than sport.
3. Making friends with local Youth Leaders, getting to know the local problems and maybe serving on the Boards of Management, etc. as well as offering opportunities for co-operation in service to senior boys and girls.
4. Individual members of a Branch to offer a couple or one night of the week to help in the active running of the Club. He need not have any special qualifications, he does not have to be a Judo expert or an authority on football, but he can come in and lend a hand. As time goes by he will find that certain aspects of the Club programme will hold greater interest for him and he will gravitate towards these. He can help by offering to convey parties to football matches, either by public transport or his own car. In fact some Branches could very easily become

of tremendous help to a Club by becoming the Transport Section of the Club, carrying boys to and from matches, camp, excursions, etc. If in addition to merely taking them there and back they show interest in what has been done they will find that after a time they will be asked to stay on as supporters of the team, or have a cup of tea with them when they are camping, so, by easy stages the blokes who started off as merely 'drivers' find themselves becoming part of the Club.

5. There will be areas where new experiments are tried, such as "drop-in" clubs, mews clubs, where lads can tinker with their motor bikes and scooters, etc. If Toc H gets wind of such experiments what an opportunity to try and help them from the start. The point was made that there are probably few "unclubbable boys" but all too many "unboyable clubs" still trying to deal with a new and affluent generation with the methods of thirty years or more ago.

Those present at the week-end all undertook to try out one or more of these approaches through their Branches and will report back on their successes and failures in a year's time. Meanwhile Alec Churcher at Headquarters has agreed to put any Branch interested in a particular one of the suggestions outlined above in touch with the particular Branch or member of the Dor Knap Conference who is trying it out.

Get
together
with
OLIVIER

The
TIPPED
cigarettes
made for
modern
living

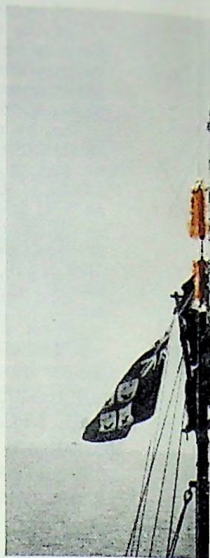


Fine Virginia tobacco • Quality with economy

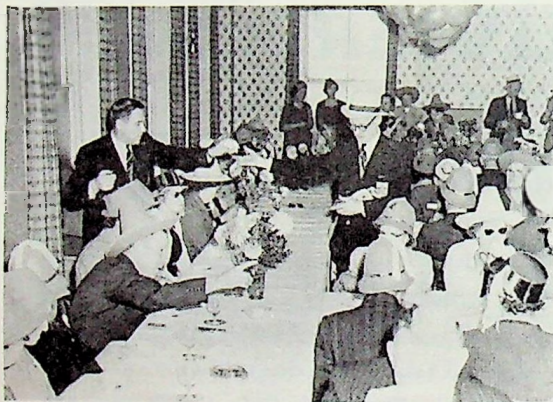
3/6 for 20 • 1/9 for 10



FIRST PRIZE: "The Helping Hand". Submitted by D. Hughes, Newport, Mon.



SECOND PRIZE: "Fixin puts television on a high Clacton-on-Sea.



FOURTH PRIZE: "Blind Club Birthday Party", A. E. Tims, Sandwell, Birmingham, 20.

the aerial". Toc H
ship. G. W. Minshall.



THIRD PRIZE: "Pennies Please", Lee Branch
BELRA collection. A. G. Ridgeon. Lee, S.E.12.

RESULT OF PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 'FOCUS ON TOC H (2)'

THE SECOND COMPETITION yielded a good crop of pictures, roughly half being black-and-white prints and the remainder colour transparencies.

In making their awards, the Judges searched for imaginative treatment, and selected pictures telling a straightforward story in preference to those relying on 'finish'.

Prizewinners in both classes have already been notified and we look forward to printing the winning entries of the colour transparencies in next month's JOURNAL.

With so many cameras in evidence today we feel certain that the Competition has barely scratched the surface and it is hoped that the reproduction of these winning entries will induce many more readers to let us have sight of their pictures showing aspects of the Movement.

Unforgotten Birthday

VIC BROWN

"GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY,—We are here today to inquire into the death of Sarah Ashby, aged 72, a widow, living at. . . ."

Sarah Ashby could picture the scene as she wrote her last message to her son, for she remembered the inquests held on her husband and her daughter. Her other son had met his death in the War so there remained now only one person to write to. She supposed her death would come as a great shock to George but he could hardly claim that he would miss her. George was no letter writer and seldom visited her. In any case she had made up her mind.

She wrote carefully, explaining the loneliness that had come to her: how people seemed to avoid her now she was older and a little deaf; how she had become estranged from her sister Agnes; how her little friends, the neighbours' children, had grown up, gone away; how old neighbours had left and had been replaced by strangers: how much better it would have been if she had been poor—to have charity visitors—and folks with Christmas parcels. She knew Agnes had received a Christmas parcel from Toc H. It would have been nice if someone had thought of her, too. But nobody cared or wanted her. She would be better away from it all. She sealed and addressed the envelope and placed it carefully on the mantelpiece. They should find it there.

In the kitchen she made her preparations calmly and deliberately: cushions by the gas stove; doors and windows carefully sealed. She kept telling herself that there must be no mistake.

A moment later she discovered the one thing that she had forgotten—there was no hiss of escaping gas—there were no coins in the meter. Her 'shilling tin' was empty and she searched the house without result. How silly to run out of shillings at such a moment!

Nothing remained but to borrow a shilling. She tidied her hair, put on her coat and carefully locked the door behind her. Crossing the street she knocked on one of the doors.

"No, I'll not come in", she said to the youth who answered the door, "I just wanted to ask your mother if she could lend me a shilling for the gas." Her conscience told her that

he looked at her rather oddly, and she added, hurriedly. "I want to make a pot of tea."

The youth went inside and a few moments later a round and cheerful woman appeared.

"Hullo, Mrs. Ashby! Come inside while I look for a shilling. You can't stand outside there in the cold. Better take off your coat a minute or you'll find it cold afterwards." Ignoring all protests and talking all the time she led the way inside. "What on earth are you doing having tea all by yourself on Christmas Eve? Why not have it with us?"

"I wouldn't think of bothering you when you have company. I wouldn't have come except that it is important to have some gas, isn't it?"

"The only company we've got is Charlie, Nellie's husband, and he's come to tell us that Nellie has a son—that makes one of each, a girl and a boy—and so we were going to have a little celebration. Nellie always thought of you as her Auntie so she would want you to be here, too. John, set another place for Mrs. Ashby. This is Susan, Nellie's daughter—she's been longing to meet Aunt Ashby who she's heard so much about."

There was no stopping Mrs. Jenkins once she got going. She talked on and on. "Did I tell you that Charles and Nellie are coming to live in the street? They will need a bigger place now, and they are buying the empty house next but one to you. Won't it be nice, Susan, for you and your little brother to live near Aunt Ashby? One thing, nobody ought to forget the baby's birthday—Christmas Eve—surely the nicest time of all for a child to be born."

"Like Jesus, at Bethlehem", said Susan, "That's how I'll remember it."

From outside came the sound of voices singing carols, telling the glad tidings of hope and joy, peace and goodwill, telling of a Child's birthday never to be forgotten.

Suddenly, tears came to Sarah Ashby, bringing peace at last to her tortured mind. The little girl saw—and took her hand and spoke comfortingly. "Aunt Ashby, come and see my Christmas presents tomorrow—that will make you happy".

"Thank you, Susan. Of course I'll come. There will have to be presents for the baby as well, because his birthday is something we must celebrate, too. It's certainly a day I will have cause to remember."





FAR CRY

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN

DOMEX

THE NEW ZEALAND DOMINION EXECUTIVE is known, understandably, as 'Domex'. It is by no means easy to collect the Executive members together in such a scattered community as Toc H New Zealand, and on September 24 the Executive met in Wellington and combined the occasion with the Council meeting and conference. The conference was inevitably overshadowed by the recent death of Sir Fred Bowerbank, who had played such a great part in shaping Toc H in its early days. It is appropriate that in the year of his death, Toc H in New Zealand will inaugurate the World Chain of Light with a 24-hour Vigil in Wellington. Pictured opposite are the following members of the conference:—

BACK ROW (l. to r.): Ted Roberts (*Domex*), Les Moore (*Sec. Canterbury Region*), Jack Barltrop (*Lower Hutt*), Albert St. John (*Nelson*), Bob Kincaird (*Nelson*), Reg Burley (*Christchurch*), Ted Towns (*Takapuna*), Syd Sanders (*Birkenhead*), Jack Armstrong (*Domex*), Arthur Reid (*Domex*), George Moller (*Wellington*), Jack Davies (*Domex*), Ken Fawcett (*Auckland*), Les Fowler (*Birkenhead*), Arthur Burge (*Dominion Treasurer*), Des Collier (*Auckland*), Peter Burge (*Wellington*), Pat Jaques (*Dominion Secretary*), Les Moss (*Lower Hutt*).
FRONT ROW (l to r.): Cliff Barber (*Dominion Padre*), Seddon Hills (*Toc H Associates*), Peter Vere-Jones, Eric Winkel (*Dominion Chairman*), Anne Clark (*Toc H Women's Association*), Neville Watkins (*Wellington*), Ellis Wood (*Regional Chairman, Canterbury*), Don Spenceley (*Regional Chairman, Auckland*).

TOC H, MALTA

It is now nearly two years since Toc H activities were resumed in Malta after a lapse of several years. Regular meetings have been held in the Crypt of St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral by the kind permission of the Chancellor, Canon Colton, and members have spent many pleasant evenings listening to talks covering a wide range of topics.

Unfortunately several of those who have been constant

attenders at the fortnightly meetings have recently returned to the U.K. and although it is hoped to avoid a return to the days when Toc H was not represented on the Island the present committee has felt obliged to stop issuing further invitations to visiting speakers until the membership has again increased.

The Chairman, Bert Stevens, will be delighted to hear from members or friends of Toc H who find themselves in Malta even if they are only paying a brief visit to the Island on their way to some other part of the world. Bert's address is : 2 Jomar Flats, Parallel Street, Sliema, Malta, G.C.

NOEL DEAN.

MESSENGERS IN CAPE TOWN

The sight of Coloured office employees playing draughts on a city pavement may have prompted some of us to ask what facilities exist for these folk. The District Team, realising that there is only one place where they can buy a cup of tea—the railway station—made a few enquiries and felt that this situation was a challenge to Toc H. So was born the idea of a Lunch Club where a Coloured man, upon proper introduction, could meet his friends, get a cup of tea, and enjoy some form of recreation. Padre Alan Hughes was interested and offered St. John's Hall, at the bottom of Long Street, as a venue. A committee has been formed to which an old friend, Hoossain Mohamed, was co-opted and his knowledge of the situation and his contacts have proved invaluable. The proposal is for a start to operate on a weekly basis and arrangements have been made to meet a possible nucleus of the proposed Club.

Lifted from *Klets*, August 1960.

WE ASK FOR IT!

Here is a well-deserved rebuke from the Editor of *The Link* of Australia:—

There does not seem to be any routine liaison in vogue which covers the immigration to this country of Toc H members, whereby London Headquarters or the member's branch notifies the Area Secretary in the relevant State in the Commonwealth. It should not be left to the immigrating member to have to seek out the Toc H contacts in a strange land.

The wastage among members who go overseas must be enormous, and one of the main causes is that so few Secretaries trouble to pass on their names and future addresses. If the address of the Area Secretary overseas is not known, it is only necessary to send a card to Headquarters in London. Luckily there are some Unit Secretaries who do their job well and are not content to let a member rot as soon as he leaves the Branch: they deserve our thanks.



Open hustings

readers' letters

The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.

Ceremony of Light

DARCLAY BARON'S views on the Ceremony of Light are those of the older generation in Toc H, and perhaps the older generation are in the majority in our movement. But, as he admits, a survey showed that some men, mostly of the younger generation, could find no real meaning for themselves in the ceremony and would prefer to do without it; others would like it modified.

The majority of members have said that they want to retain the ceremony in its present form but is this any more than a sentimental attachment to old words and old forms? In trying to recruit new members should we not look to the younger generation? Should we not ask ourselves whether there is in our meetings anything with which they may feel ill at ease? What is to happen to the man who feels ill at ease? Should he stay away from Toc H?

A ceremony can be a beautiful thing but it is of only minor importance in the life of a movement. What is more important is that we should recruit men to work for and keep alive the ideals of our movement—men who will accept our Christian aims of Fellowship, Service and Fairmindedness.

Unless our Movement is to die out, those men must be recruited from the younger generation.

Northampton. VIC BROWN.

I HAVE just been reading Barkis's article on the Lamp of Maintenance in the October JOURNAL. I enjoyed it too, but, at the same time I was faintly disappointed that it did not contain any positive proposal concerning the words we have used for so long during the ceremony of Light.

You see, for some years there has been constantly in the back of my mind the conviction that, notwithstanding the beauty of those words, and the knowledge that they have always been an integral part of Toc H, some of them at least have outgrown the circumstances which inspired them.

The appearance of Barkis's article was coincidental with the thoughts which arose in my mind during Tubby's talk in All Hallows recently, when he challenged us to bring ourselves up-to-date so that we may draw the men of the 1960's to Toc H. This stirred me to think a little more actively about Light and of how we might possibly change its wording to make it sound logical to the grandsons of those men who were the first to be remembered and yet not

destroy its meaning.

We say "They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old" just as it was written and said of those who gave their lives between 1914 and 1918. But only one page away from Barkis in the JOURNAL are recorded the names of not less than six Elder Brethren whose ages range between 70 and 83. How therefore, can we say that "they shall grow not old" or that "age shall not weary them" and mean it?

It may be true that no better words have yet been put forward. It may also be true that many seek no change. This could be because we are diffident of diverting from something which has always been inherent in our Movement—or it may be that we have feared the risk of hurting feelings. Perhaps even that we have not thought it to be of great enough importance to depart from the old established order of things.

I am certain words can be found from within our ranks. Even I, and Heaven knows I am no Laurence Binyon, have found sufficient courage to try, like this:—

*"With Proud Thanksgiving, let
us Remember our Elder
Brethren,*

*Their earthly race is run;
With us the Torch is left
in Trust to keep Aflame.
They shall Live on in More
than Name.*

*At the Going Down of the
Sun, and in the Morning,
We will Remember Them".*

Whatever might be the opinion of those particular words, I suggest that they are more in keeping with what our thoughts and the thoughts of those younger men we seek, might be in 1960.

F. L. PETCH.

Letchworth, Herts.

Peaceful Invasion

GOOLE was invaded from the sea on Monday, September 26, by a raiding party which included Tubby Clayton and two A.D.C.'s. They disembarked from the S.S. *Lancing* which arrived in the Port of Goole from Shoreham in Sussex. As you can well imagine a lively day ensued for those of us who were privileged at short notice to man the defences.

Tubby so far penetrated our defences as to occupy South Cave for a short time on the Monday morning, and there he encountered and was held by that famous soldier, Colonel Carver—a Vice-President of Toc H.

During our Armistice talks in the afternoon on Monday, Tubby told us of the tremendous help received in the past and also quite recently from the Colonel in the building of Toc H. . . .

BILL HARDY.

Spiritual Power House

Toc H starting on its fifth decade must have within its membership many who after years of loyal service in furthering the cause of Christ's Kingdom in all parts of the world, have arrived at a point in their pilgrimage where their love for the cause is as great as ever, but the years, often of hard and strenuous work, have taken their toll and they no longer have the strength for active participation.

Could it not be that some of these devoted men and women may yet give of their best by means of daily intercession for the needs of Toc H. If our great Movement is to survive and fulfil its purpose, which is nothing less than the building of our Lord's Kingdom here

TOC H JOURNAL

and now. We must all return constantly to drink deep of that well of water which first nurtured us.

What I have in mind is the building of a great spiritual power House operated by our senior members, who have reached what the world calls the age of retirement. What we need then is a sort of 'Dor Knap'—a big central house in large grounds in which I think there will be numerous chalets for married folk.

The focus of all this will of course be the church or chapel, which could well be in the main building. There the needs of Toc H and all its associations will be met by continual daily prayer and intercession.

What I have suggested above will cost a lot of money for the purchase of the property alone and there would have to be an endowment fund to provide an income for the maintenance of those who needed it and for the upkeep of the fabric, etc. This fund could also be applicable to the needs of our less fortunate or weaker brethren, for every great movement must have a few difficult cases to care for. As far as I know there is no central fund in Toc H from which assistance can be given when needed.

I feel quite certain that this idea will be welcomed by our membership and receive their loyal support. I believe also many people will gladly will sums of money to provide a proper endowment, which will be necessary in order that the intercessors are released from mundane cares.

This establishment will be akin to the ideal Mark. A cross-section of God's Kingdom. It will, I think, be found in practice that such a community, consisting as it will of

all kinds of people of different skills and talents, could in part be self supporting; always bearing in mind of course that the average age (apart from certain individuals) will be about 65. I believe the carpenter, the painter, gardener, etc. may still find an outlet for their respective crafts.

This then is a brief and sketchy outline of what I feel is a very real need in Toc H. I am quite certain the whole Movement must deepen its spiritual life if it is to make any impact worth mentioning on the life of the world today.

H. BOWEN SMITH.

No. 2422.

Youngest Builder

MARK, the son of 'TINY' and MARY LITTLE, was born at 9.45 a.m. on October 10 and enrolled as a Toc H Builder at 10.15 the same morning. The following letters are lifted from the Bursar's post-bag.—Ed.

Dear Uncle Ken,

I have just arrived from 'down under' and so wish to introduce myself.

Mum and Dad say I am too young to become a Toc H member so advise me to ask for a Builder's Membership Card.

So please find herewithin a cheque for £1 asking you to recommend me and so make me a young, but good member of our Great Family. Toc H.

All the Best. Uncle Ken.
Hope to see you soon.

MARK LITTLE.

Anerley, S.E.20.

My Dear Mark,

Thank you for your letter and your proud father's cheque. You have learnt to write very quickly and so cleverly that I can't tell if you are left-handed or right-handed. Here is your Toc H Builder's Certificate—

the first ever issued—and a card and a Badge to pin on when occasions arise for you to be on show!

I hope you will become a good a member of Toc H, as your mother and father are, and may God give you a lifetime of real happiness and true peace.

With love from,

Your newly-acquired,

UNCLE KEN.

The Vital Chain

I READ with interest the article entitled 'The Vital Chain' in the November JOURNAL, and think R. J. Davies' suggestions are helpful.

However, I must hasten to defend Isaac Watts, author of the hymn 'O God, our help in ages past', from the charge of paganism. The verse:

Time like an ever-rolling stream

Bears all its sons away.

They fly forgotten, as a dream

Dies at the opening day

is cited as the basis of this charge. It is generally held that the 'sons of time' referred to, are not human beings but hours, which do 'fly forgotten'.

Admittedly the man in the street may not be aware of this interpretation, but that does not affect its validity.

CHRISTOPHER SUTTON (Rev.).
Norbury, S.W.16.

Inter-Racial Experiment

D. A. ETHEREDGE

SOME TIME AGO the Rhodes Branch in Salisbury made contact through Noel Borerwe, the only African member of Toc H in Central Africa, with a number of Africans living in Highfield, the middle-class homeownership village just outside Salisbury. Some joint meetings were held and then the demand arose from the Africans that a Toc H Branch should be started in Highfield.

We made it clear that a Branch could not be formed until there was a sufficient nucleus of members and that while most of them were men whom Toc H would probably welcome, they had to prove themselves and show that they could sustain their interest in a movement which demanded so much of its membership.

They accepted this argument with some reluctance but when we hit upon the Toc H Club idea, we found a solution which met their needs very satisfactorily. So we formed the Toc H Club, a club whose members are men living in Highfield and members of Rhodes Branch. The Club has been flourishing for over a year now and has a look of permanency about it. The African members, like the

Europeans, are drawn from a diverse background—teachers, ministers of religion, clerks, business men, and so on. Their fellowship and common interest is excellent.

Quite a field of service is already being undertaken: the Club run the library at Highfield and is busy getting in new books. Club members pay hospital visits and also organise Saturday afternoon soccer for the youth of the village. Meetings are held every Thursday evening and the Club has a chairman, secretary, treasurer and jobmaster, all of whom are showing great enthusiasm.

We believe the Toc H Club idea is worth spreading and that these clubs which are useful in themselves as means of contact and common service between ourselves and members of other races, are also a logical stepping-stone towards membership of Toc H. We must guard our membership jealously. The lack of social contact between African and European means that we have not the same knowledge of the individual African's background, integrity and ability to work for the ideals of Toc H as we have of the European.

We believe, too, that we must be careful of Africans and others who would simply join Toc H to be associated with a European movement and wear a badge and tie. Moreover, while the African through the medium of his tribal organisation has the inherent willingness to help his brother in need, we are not certain that the concept of voluntary service to the community in general, or to those who are not brothers in the tribal sense, is as developed amongst Africans as it needs to be amongst Toc H members.

Nevertheless, experience has shown that the Toc H Club quickly develops those Africans—the few rather than the many—who will make first-class Toc H members. This has already happened and the Central African Council which met recently has approved unanimously the formation of a Branch in Highfield, the founder members of which will be Padre Borerwe and six senior members 'seconded' from the four Branches in Salisbury. This Branch will have six to eight of the leading Club members as probationers and, with good luck, they will be full members early next year.

There is every intention of continuing with the Highfield Toc H Club which will meet on another evening of the week and cater for the larger number of Africans who see the good in Christian fellowship and service and might eventually graduate to probationership in the Branch.

No Dry Bones

FRED FINEDON

AND IT CAME TO PASS that the High Priests⁽¹⁾ of the lands of Beds. and Herts. were troubled that their tribes being scattered throughout the length and breadth of their land might forget their kinship one with another. Therefore, they commanded that there should be a great gathering wherein the men of their tribes should meet one with another, face to face, that each might know the other from whence he came.

And so did the High Priests command that the tribe which dwelt by the river called Hiz⁽²⁾ and that other tribe which dwelt by the Six Hills⁽³⁾ near the great highway, saying: "Get ye together and prepare a feast and games and entertainment, that all the brotherhood of our lands may meet in friendship: and prepare a Temple that we may give thanks to God and seek his guidance in our endeavours".

Then did those two tribes gather together in consternation, scratching themselves unto their heads as they pondered. Some there were amongst them who cried, "Wherefore have the High Priests decreed that we should carry the vessel. Surely we are not sufficient unto this mighty task?"

But, even as he spoke, fearing that the wrath of the High Priests might fall upon them, so they did make plans for the assembly and appointed certain Elders,⁽⁴⁾ charging them to go forth and do that which was commanded of them. And these Elders went forth doing all those things which the High Priests had said, save those which they forgot until the eleventh hour. And all their fears and all their tribulations and all their troubles vanished as they said one to another, "All will be well upon the day".

And so, upon the day which was appointed, in the season when the great rains of summer had given way to the greater rains of autumn, did the many brethren of the scattered tribes of Beds. and Herts. which were withal but part of a greater Family, gather together at a mighty palace of Learning,⁽⁵⁾ in a new city, hard by the Six Hills on the Great

(1) Area Executive. (2) Hitchin. (3) Stevenage. (4) Rally Committee.

(5) Berkeley School.

Highway. At the entrance to the Palace they gazed with awe upon a graven image, fashioned by Henry, son of Moore, for they understood it not. But entering through the portals into the Palace which was gilded as that of a Prince, there they were filled with great delight at what they saw and in joy and gladness did they greet one another as the brethren they truly were, even though they knew not the countenances of one, the other.

And, in a room set apart there began a great contest of archery⁽⁶⁾, with neither bows nor slings, but with small arrows sharp as to the point and feathered like as to birds at the nether end: hurled not at one another but at ciphers marked upon the wall for the purpose. Tribe against tribe did they combat, until one was declared with tumult and acclamation, the winner.

And during this while, certain men of the two chosen tribes did fill their chariots with those among their brethren who desired to see this mighty new city which had sprung up close to the Six Hills, and did drive them along its highways and byways.⁽⁷⁾ And great was the number of the things they saw; the temples and the dwellings and the markets and the storehouses and those places wherein man laboured to earn his daily sustenance; even did they cast their eyes with fear and foreboding upon that place wherein a Central Councillor did serve those who create mighty engines of war which fly through the air though they have not wings.⁽⁸⁾ Verily were they amazed at all they saw for even though they travelled five leagues, yet did they not see all that was there.

Then, as the sun did set, and the darkness of evening hid from their eyes the falling rain so that it could but be felt upon their heads, did all the tribes gather together into Saint Nicholas's Church of God, and as one Family, with prayer and singing, did offer their devotion to their Supreme Master whose unseen presence was yet made clear to them.⁽⁹⁾ With words of wisdom and knowledge in their hearts did they return to the Palace of Learning, wherein a great repast had been prepared for them and with feasting and drinking did they all make merry, talking the while upon this and that with those upon their right hand and with those upon their left hand. And the slaves⁽¹⁰⁾ who attended upon the needs

(6) Finals of Area Darts Competition.

(8) English Electric (Guided Missile Section).

(10) Six younger members, Stevenage Branch.

(7) Tour of Stevenage.

(9) Re-dedication Service.

of the multitude were much admired for their diligence of service.

And the chief among the Elders of the two tribes did call upon each of the tribes of the land of Beds. and Herts. to stand and declare⁽¹¹⁾ themselves to the others so that all might see who they were and from whence they had journeyed hence. And this was done and all men acclaimed the others with clapping together of their hands and other noises.

And when all had taken their fill, so they went into another room where a choir⁽¹²⁾ of men did make sweet music with their voices and all were glad.

And the joy of the many increased when they beheld a youth, a stripling of small stature, in Judo combat, throw to the ground with great force, the leader of the tribe which dwelt by the river called Hiz, whose name was Wood the Chair, even though he hated him not, for this was but a manner of pleasure. And especially did the scribe rejoice, for had he not suffered in like manner a short time since, yet did he not fling but was flung.

Then did a wizard make magic, filling all with wonder, for did he not strike off the hand from the arm of his sleeve yet no blood was spilled and even was the arm made whole again.

Then when the merry making was finished did the Chief of the High Priests⁽¹³⁾ give trophies to the victorious tribes for their skill in archery and to another for his accomplishment in driving his chariot.⁽¹⁴⁾ And also were gifts made by him to Frank, son of Figg, and to Elizabeth, wife of Frank, and loud were the praises of the multitude for this was their well beloved Frank who had but only newly put away his cloak of office as a High Priest and now, in honour, was resting from the work of many years for all the men of all the tribes of Beds. and Herts.

Then did the Chief Scribe⁽¹⁵⁾ to the High Priests command that there should be darkness in the room and it was done and a silence fell upon them. Then did he light a Lamp and there was no other light but that which came from the lamp. And he called upon them to remember their Elder Brethren by whose sacrifice they lived and by whose example their Family might flourish. For the length of one minute no

(11) Area roll call

(13) Area Chairman.

(15) Area Secretary.

(12) Stevenage (Town) Male Voice Choir.

(14) Car Rally.

sound was heard in the room. Then did the Chief Scribe command that they should lead all men to praise God by the performance of their work in His service.

Then spake one from beyond the border of the Celts,⁽¹⁶⁾ charging all men to do their rightful duty to their fellows and instructing them how this might be done. He spake of them who have faithfulness yet have not foresight and of those who have years yet have not wisdom, and commanded all men of all the assembled tribes to be diligent in their learning so that they might teach.

And it was time for all to be gone, and there was a great exodus of chariots carrying men back to the lands from whence they came, filled with the spirit of gladness for had they not again touched the hands of their brothers and heard their voices.

(16) Peter Orford.

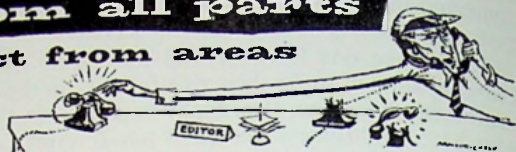
‘One out of four’

DIANA McBAIN

IN THESE DAYS when so much has been done to relieve suffering, when even leprosy is no longer fatal, cancer—like the H-bomb—still strikes a dread note in the mind of man. Statistics prove that one out of four people are victims of this disease and this is the title of a slim book* recording the personal experiences of Myrtle Williamson, herself a victim. She has set down her innermost feelings hoping to bring comfort, so hard to give, to other victims of this lonely disease. Who is there to turn to when loving friends remain powerless to help? How easy it is to be sceptical when one has plenty of time and one is sufficient unto oneself! Myrtle Williamson found that the answer was to put herself into the hands of God and her doubts were then dissolved. Death, she says, is a gate on the horizon through which all must pass; only for some it is nearer than for others. For her it is very near, but with God close to her and with a sympathetic doctor who hides no facts from her, she is able to keep her sense of humour and her interest in life—though fleeting—facing the feeling of walking ‘the razor edge’ and avoiding fear and panic.

* *One out of Four* by Myrtle Williamson. (Epworth Press. 7s. 6d.)

From all parts direct from areas



EASTERN LONDON

from Jim Green

Thirty senior boys from Fairfax High School, led by their Headmaster, pushed the wheelchairs when SOUTHEND and SOUTH-CHURCH received a party of multiple sclerosis sufferers last month. The outing was organised by BARNET members, together with their local Multiple Sclerosis Society, and travelled in a convoy of twenty vehicles. Co-operation from the police ensured that the wheelchairs and their pushers had an easy passage over the pedestrian crossings and the 'tour of the light' was much enjoyed.

Branches in the S.E. Essex District manned a marquee giving all-night service and refreshments to the large number of people engaged in setting up the Southend Town Show. This was a new venture and was very much appreciated. A Toc H exhibit in the Social Service tent showed large photographs of local jobs and displayed some of the equipment of the Toc H Film unit.

SOUTHERN

from Fred Brooker

The quiet job of work that is being done in Southampton at TALBOT HOUSE SEAFARING BOYS' RESIDENTIAL CLUB has been going on since 1924, when Lionel and Gerry Meade became concerned about the special needs of seafaring boys in the Port. This led them to open a home for them in what had once been an old pub, where all seafaring boys aged 14-18 were welcome. The first hostel was an improvisation, but it proved that there was a great need and in 1932 a new Hostel was opened on a site near the docks. Many will remember that in 1957 this same Hostel was modernised and extended.

Today, thirty-six years after the first home was opened, the same job is going on, day by day, week by week and month by month. Inky and 'Mum' Bean now carry on the very personal job with the boys in this Port. To give you a picture of the day to day work of the Hostel, I cannot do better than quote a part of this year's Annual Report.

"Boys, boys, boys, boys: they come and they go; tall boys, short boys, fat boys, lanky boys; boys with all the confidence of two years' experience, boys who had not been away from home before—immature youngsters with a timid approach: youths who are swaggering their way to early manhood, boys who are difficult, boys who are easy, boys with good manners and boys who have none; boys who have money, and boys who are 'broke'. All these and more, with endless variations. We provide for them all. Our Wardens have the knowledge of twenty years spent in their service, but every day may dawn to something new, and every night they realise that their knowledge has increased.

KENT

from Cyril Cattell

Readers of the JOURNAL will already know of the excellent work being done by BUCKLAND (Dover) Branch at the local Borstal.

Another job which they have undertaken for many years is the collection, repair and distribution of toys for under-privileged children at Christmastime. Now these two very worthwhile pieces of service are being linked together. Some boys in the Invicta Club at the Borstal have asked if they might also repair and paint toys for distribution. Their offer has been readily accepted and through the willing co-operation of the Governor, a room has been set aside specially for this work.



C. V. Kendall. Nantwich

Roy Warhurst, the football star, presents the Mathews Challenge Trophy to Shavington Toc H Boys' Club winning team.

NOTTS. & DERBY

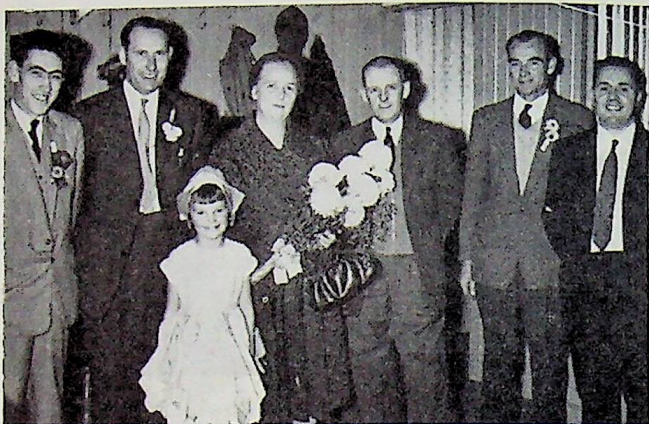
from Les Wheatley

Seventy Branch officers gathered recently in NOTTINGHAM for an afternoon's intensive effort on the practical side of their jobs. After each officer-group had discussed the pattern of the job set out by the group leader, there was a Branch Executive demonstration. This was quite a high spot in the programme and the place and importance of the Branch Executive was ably put over by SANDIACRE Branch. Following tea, the final session was given over to Alec Churcher who helped us to see the functioning of the Branch through the efforts of the officers in terms of leadership. It was a heartening experience and it can be hoped that the result may be in more positive Branch life. The Toc H film, *A Lamp Burns* has been booked for a week in December during which it is hoped to show it to Builders and other friends of Toc H in various parts of the Area. KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD Branch is keen to promote the competitive spirit and is trying to put into operation a Top Town Branch competition, on somewhat similar lines to the TV effort, but it is aimed to have old folks, hospital patients, etc., as audiences. The annual bonfire party was again held in NOTTINGHAM when Toc H and Scouts joined in entertaining overseas students.

MARCHES

from T. Romanis
A successful Autumn Fayre was held by the EDMOND group, and a sum of £57 was raised in two hours. The event was opened by Mrs. R. C. Neville who spoke on the work of Toc H and its importance in the community.

Alec Churcher was welcomed to an informal night at OSWESTRY Branch, where he also met members from LLANGOLLEN and WESTON RHYN Branches. He was the Guest Speaker at a SHREWSBURY Guest Night to which members and friends came from as far afield as WREXHAM. A large number of guests supported this event, despite the very wet weather.



Mrs. R. C. Neville, with members of Edmond group at the opening of their Autumn Fayre.

LINCOLNSHIRE

from George Lee
"Operation Cloudburst", when a considerable part of the old township of HORNCastle was flooded to a depth of several feet, proved once again the strong bonds of the Family particularly when anyone is in distress. No sooner had news of the flooding been received than members of East Coast Branches, themselves victims of a similar plight some years ago, immediately offered themselves in service. The warmth and readiness of their unstinting work was such as to draw special mention from the Chairman of the local Council as well as from residents. As one lady remarked, "It was not only the amount of work that they did, but the fact that they were whistling and singing all the time they worked, which raised our spirits high." Although many local Branch members had suffered themselves, domestically or in business, they too were soon on the job and it is to their credit that they were asked to make the survey of the domestic loss and damage in the township, a task speedily and satisfactorily accomplished. Meanwhile other units had assisted in gifts in cash and kind. Though the flood waters quickly receded much damage still remains to be made good.

SUSSEX

from Cyril Cattell

Do you find training in Toc H fun? If you have not experienced any it will, of course, be hard to answer the question. But in various parts of this Area training is going ahead quite smoothly in a variety of ways and there is ample evidence that this certainly need not be a dull business. The most recent training session was in EAST SUSSEX when Jim MacCormack, a member of the Area Team, 'held forth' on the work of the Pilot in Toc H. Not an easy subject but one which well repaid the effort put into it by the leader. General discussion which followed was lively and it was clear that much had been learned by sharing together in this way.



Brighton and Hove Gazette

Members of Hove and Portslade Branch chopping firewood for infirm people. They have done this job for the past two winters and average delivery of some thirty-six bags each month.

SURREY

from R. Baden Fairs

For the third successive year LEATHERHEAD Branch joined with the W.A. Branch in organising a Harvest Supper. Its headquarters were beautifully decorated with massed flowers and autumn tinted leaves and berries and the supper was delightfully served by the ladies. It included home-made Christmas pudding with a kick! Fifty sat down, including a party of friends from Weybridge. The profit of nearly £4 was shared between the job funds of the two Branches. Toc H Leatherhead is proud of the local BELRA Branch which it initiated. In its first two years it has raised over £600 and interest is growing rapidly. Collections for its work have been made at both the local cinema and the repertory theatre. The Leatherhead Branch Padre, the Rev. K. Meiklejohn has left to take a living at Dorchester Parish Church and we shall miss him greatly.



Bridlington Free Press

Gathering of members at the Yorkshire Conference held in September at Bridlington.

SCOTLAND

from Reg Stewart

Donald Macintosh writes to say that everything in the OCHILS District seems set fair for the coming winter. CRIEFF, the Northern outpost, continues to flourish, and STIRLING, ALLOA and TILLICOUNTRY are all in good heart. These latter units have three main points in common. (i) they have each redecorated their Branch rooms, (ii) they have each shown an increase in the amounts subscribed by members, and (iii) they are each distinguished by a vitality which is most pleasant to experience. Like Crieff, the three Branches mentioned have in hand a comprehensive programme of jobs and talks, the jobs varying according to the locality, and data are being gathered in two districts where it is hoped, new units may be set up. It is many years since the future has seemed so promising in Ochils as it is now, and all members, young and not so young, look forward with zest to the coming Winter's work.

LARGS Branch are engaged on an interesting experiment in fellowship by members of the Branch maintaining a systematic correspondence, exchanging ideas and information with members of Plumstead Branch, Cape Town. Their information and news, straight from members of Toc H in South Africa in these difficult times is refreshing and encouraging.

PRESTONPANS Branch, Lothians, was presented with its Lamp at a well-attended meeting at which the Toc H film, *A Lamp Burns* was shown. Bob Livingston, our new Chairman, congratulated the Branch at which Members from EDINBURGH, SELKIRK, KILSO, STIRLING and BLACKRIDGE were present.

Some sixty members are attending a Training Conference at Melrose, in the Borders, and it is hoped that this will set a pattern for a series of such local conferences to be held in Scotland this coming Winter.

ALLOA held a most successful Rededication Service and Guest Night at which some eighty members and their friends attended. The gathering assembled later in the newly decorated Toc H Rooms at which members from as far afield as CRIEFF, FALKIRK and CUMBERNAULD were welcomed.



Southern Farmer

This entry of a decorated car won third prize for Cranleigh group at their local Agricultural Show.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY

from Tim Tobias

On one of the wettest nights of the wettest month of October for very nearly a century, MAIDENHEAD held a Guest Night. One hundred and twenty members and friends, including the Mayor and Mayoress, braved the elements. They were well rewarded with refreshments, the Toe H film *A Lamp Burns*, and an enlightening talk by Brian Dickson. As sometimes happens, when question time came there was silence, but afterwards, questions came hot and strong and many new contacts were formed. The film was very well received and is a great credit to the producers.

WESTERN

from Johnnie MacMillan

The visit of Jack Harrison to the Area will, it is hoped, make the Family Purse a talking point with a difference. Many woolly ideas have now been cleared away and its real purposes more clearly seen. Jack spoke at five different places; at the Area Centre to the BRISTOL NORTH AND SOUTH Branches, and to Builders and General Members on a second evening. At Stroud he spoke to GLOUCESTER and MID COTSWOLD Branches, the hot dogs were barking furiously. CALNE Branch, who were the hosts to CHIPPENHAM and SWINDON Districts, excelled themselves; the bread and cheese and onions, with cider, coffee or tea, made for a very good meeting and the hundred members present enjoyed the food and talk very much.

HIGHBRIDGE & BURNHAM's new room welcomed its first gathering, when Jack Harrison spoke to the VALE OF AVALON and WEST MENDIP Branches. Covenant forms and envelopes are now well in the picture—and perhaps the visit of the Finance Secretary will make the witness in Christian Stewardship much more apparent.



Hertfordshire Express

Four volunteers of Stevenage Branch, K. Munsen, T. Ellis, A. Molyneux and G. Ellis, on 'cookhouse' duty at the Beds. and Herts. Rally.

MANCHESTER AND NORTH WESTERN from Bob Knight and Jack Shaw

For news of the North-West this time we concentrate on the Wirral District. WEST KIRBY BEACON, the youngest unit, are already making plans to run a camp next Summer for children suffering from Polio. UPTON with GREASBY, inspired by the Keynotes booklet, are stirring up their locality to the needs of the elderly. It is hoped to form a company of Good Neighbours. HESWALL will soon be starting another course for child cyclists. Already eighty have passed as proficient. BEBINGTON, having adopted a Ward in Clatterbridge, are involved in regular visiting and doing any job that may turn up while they are there. This Branch has always been well represented on the local Council, now for the first time a member is Mayor of the Borough.

In MANCHESTER, the Area Festival of Music at the Free Trade Hall brought the Family and many friends together from all over Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Staffordshire. Coach parties were organised and we know for certain that an afternoon's shopping was part of the bargain. The proceeds for this fourth Festival of Music will be divided between Toc H Women's Association and the Children's Camp.

The World Chain of Light will also draw the Branches together. MERSEY District (comprising all the Branches in the Southern suburbs of Manchester) will meet at MARK IV after Evensong at the Parish Church. The new incumbent there is Rev. Charles Challen who has known Toc H from Knutsford days.

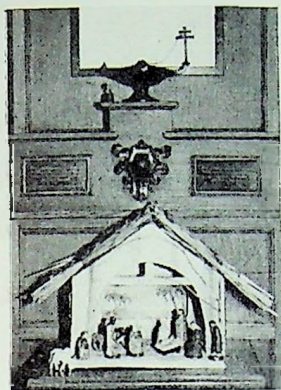
Various jobs in the Christmas-spirit are getting well under way. SHARSTON will promote a carol service on December 15, to which the elderly folk particularly look forward.

LITTLE TIME NOW REMAINS, SO PLEASE USE
ORDER FORM OVERLEAF NOW

Toc H Christmas Cards

Three different designs have again been prepared and to avoid possible disappointment you are asked to send in your order without delay as there is a heavy demand for this year's cards.

CARD 'A'—An upright card, size $3\frac{3}{4}'' \times 5''$, with the Lamp design die-stamped in Blue and Gold and greeting printed inside. Complete with envelopes, 5s. 6d. per dozen post free.



CARD 'B'—This card shows the Lamp and Christmas Crib on the Upper Landing at Talbot House, Poperinge. Size $3\frac{3}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{8}''$ complete with envelopes, 5s. 6d. per dozen, post free.



CARD 'C'—A striking design by Armour Chelu, reproduced in three colours, with greeting inside. Size $3'' \times 6\frac{3}{8}''$, complete with envelopes, 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free.

Toc H Diaries

Supplies of the 1961 Diary are now available for your use. Contents includes much useful information, indispensable to a members, 4s. 3d., or fitted with pencil, 4s. 9d. post free.

ORDER FORM

To: Toc H Headquarters, 15, Trinity Square, London, E.C.3

(Please complete in block capitals)

19

From _____ Branch/group

Name _____

Address _____

Please send:

£ s. d.

doz. Christmas Cards. Style 'A'
@ 5s. 6d. per doz.

doz. Christmas Cards. Style 'B'
@ 5s. 6d. per doz.

doz. Christmas Cards. Style 'C'
@ 7s. 6d. per doz.

copies, 1961 Toc H Diary
@ 4s. 3d. each

copies, 1961 Toc H Diary
fitted with pencil @ 4s. 9d. each

Enclosed is Cheque/Postal Order value £ : s. d.

(Signed) _____

Journal Smalls Small Advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED

BLIND TOC H MEMBER working at home for St. Dunstons seeks Housekeeper. Good accommodation, board and wages provided. Please write: Mr. George Wilkins, 135 Honey End Lane, Reading. Tel.: Reading 53601.

COX'S ORANGE PIPPINS BY POST: packed in special containers, 54 selected apples 22s. 6d. inclusive: delightful presents—Garner Freeston, Stonewall Fruit Farm, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent.

TULIP BULBS of good quality are now on sale by Pinchbeck Branch at 25s. per 100 or 3s. 6d. per doz. in the following colours: White, Pink, Yellow, Red, Rose, Mixed. Also mixed daffodil bulbs at 32s. 6d. per 100 or 5s. per doz. Please send your order to the Treasurer: Ernest W. Packer, "Fenlands," Spalding Road, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs., and enclose 2s. extra on orders under £1 for postage. All profits to Family Purse.

ENVELOPES. Good quality cream laid, 4½ x 3½, with Toc H crest on flap. 3s. per 100, direct from Toc H Publications Dept.

WHERE TOC H MEETS— Attractive display cards. New design in black, white and amber, with space for Branch details. 3 for 1s. 6d. from Toc H Publications Dept.

STAMPS. Gifts of Foreign Stamps and Great Britain (4d. values and over) are always welcomed by Toc H Stamps Appeal. C. H. Wake, 475 Roxborough Avenue, Rockcliffe, Ottawa, Canada. Mark Packets 'Free Gift'.

Collections of stamps urgently wanted, used and unused, British and Foreign, ancient and modern. Please send to help hospitals and missions. The Rev. Dick Tuesday, 263 Mansel Road, Millbrook, Southampton.

TOC H TIES in new design with miniature gold lamps on navy blue ground.

All Rayon Rep Weave	11/3
Terylene	13/9
All Silk Rep Weave	16/9

The Club Stripe pattern also remains on sale in three qualities:

Non-crease Weave	7/11
Terylene	9/6
All Silk	12/11

Plus postage, 6d.

Direct from the Official Outfitters:
C. R. Thompson Ltd.,
41 Railway Approach, London Bridge,
London, S.E.1.

SAFETY RAZOR BLADES, Gillette and 7 o'clock slotted type only, when used but not rusty or wrapped, for sale to benefit the Family Purse, welcomed by Peter Cubitt, 34 Baydale Road, Darlington, Co. Durham.

AJAC ELECTRIC BLANKET

Warmth with Safety—
Specially woven tunnel fabric

55/- INC. TAX &
POSTAGE

Size 48" x 33" — 75 watts

(Costs about 1d. a week)

**GUARANTEED
BRITISH MADE**

Cash with order to:-

AJAC ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS

11 Claremont Road, Llandudno.

For the

DESK
POCKET

or

HOBBY

a

LETT'S
DIARY

is BOUND to be the best

Charles Lett's & Co. Ltd

DIARY HOUSE
BOROUGH ROAD
LONDON · S.E.1

"First in 1816 —————

————— Foremost ever since"